

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING TUBERS WITH A POWDERED ORGANIC COMPOUND

ABSTRACT

5 The present invention provides both a process and apparatus for treating tubers
in storage with chlorpropham (CIPC) dust or the dust of any other similar organic
compound. The process includes the steps of forming minute particles of solid CIPC
particles from a larger block or chunks of solid CIPC, and inducting the particles into an
airstream which transports the particles to a tuber storage shed. For a preferred
embodiment of the invention, the blocks or chunks of solid CIPC are fed into a hammer
10 mill or like apparatus, which pulverizes the solid CIPC. Insufficiently fine particles are
returned to the mill for further pulverization. Fine powder consisting of particles, each of
which has a major dimension of less than about 5 micrometers, is transported by the
ducted airstream from the separator to a storage shed containing a pile of tubers. The
powder filters through the pile and coats exposed surfaces of the exposed tubers.